

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 AGR-05 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01

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O R 211035Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1660

INFO AMCONSUL NAPLES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IT

SUBJECT: UNITED BRANDS

REF: STATE 249510

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN MINFOREIGN TRADE FRANCO BERETTI INFORMED EMBASSY HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH COMPANY REPS AS WELL AS DUTCH EMBASSY (LATTER HAS MADE DEMARCHE ON BEHALF OF SURINAM) ON UNITED BRANDS' PROBLEM. BERETTI IS DEFERRING ISSUANCE OF IMPORT LICENSE ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER DE MITA, NOW TRAVELLING IN THE UNITED STATES AND EXPECTED TO RETURN TO ITALY EITHER LATE OCTOBER 21 OR ON OCTOBER 22.

2. BERETTI CONFIRMED THAT REASONS FOR THE DELAY IN ISSUING LICENSE STEM FROM PAST ALLEGATIONS IN SEC INVESTIGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES OF BRIBERY OF ITALIAN OFFICIALS BY UB TO OBTAIN FAVORABLE IMPORT TREATMENT. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, ACCORDING BERETTI, IS THE AMOUNT OF PRESS PLAY GIVEN HERE TO ALLEGED PAYMENTS. BERETTI ASSERTED THAT MATTER HAS NOW ASSUMED SUFFICIENT POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN ITALY TO WARRANT INTERVENTION BY MINISTER AND DECISION ON ISSUANCE OF LICENSE WILL BE WITHHELD UNTIL
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RETURN OF DE MITA.

3. BERETTI ADDED THAT HE KNEW THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME DAMAGE TO BANANAS BUT HE BELIEVES THAT DAMAGE IS MINIMAL. LICENSE COULD BE ISSUED IN TIME TO PREVENT SIGNIFICAN LOSSES, IF DE MITA APPROVED, TO ALLOW COMPLETION OF UNLOADING WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. HE COULD NOT INDICATE, HOWEVER, WHAT DE MITS'S DECISION WOULD BE.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, COMMODITIES, FOREIGN TRADE, EXPORT CONTROLS, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME15240
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750364-1192
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751032/aaaabcsf.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 249510
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNITED BRANDS
TAGS: ETRD, IT, US, (BERETTI, FRANCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006